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IN MEMORIAM



RENWICK HARPER MARTIN D.D.

A WARRIOR FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS

By Dr. W. W. McKinney, D.D.
President, National Reform Association

When the news spread widely that death had terminated the earthly service of our beloved friend and esteemed leader, our sorrowing hearts repeated with new meaning the words of David regarding the warrior Abner: "a prince and a great man has fallen this day."

Truly Dr. Martin was a prince among reformers and a great leader in the ranks of those who had enlisted in lifetime service for righteousness under the banner of the captain of our salvation. Genial in spirit, unswerving in conviction, sympathetic and loyal in friendship, determined and sacrificial in zeal, tireless in energy, and courageous and consistent in spiritual battle, he lived and served his Master beyond the score years of unremitted activity.

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The Editor's Page

With the sudden passing of Dr. R. H. Martin, president emeritus of the National Reform Association and former editor of the *Christian Statesman*, it is fitting that this entire issue should be devoted to his memory. He was truly a great man—an unusual man—a genius.

It is difficult to realize that he is gone. Despite his eighty-six years his passing had not been anticipated. His unabated vigor and zeal continued until within a few hours of his death. He died at 5:15 Thursday morning, October 23rd after only a few days illness from bronchitis.

On Tuesday of the preceding week he attended a meeting in Beaver Falls, Pa., of the Presbytery of his church at which he spoke ably in support of some matters that were close to his heart and then asked that he might be excused early from the meeting in order to return to Pittsburgh to attend a family dinner with his son who had come from London, England, on a short business trip and who was flying back to London the following day.

He leaves his daughter, Mrs. Mary Alice Crable, her husband and their three children, of Cheswick, Pa., with whom he made his home; a son, Renwick G., his wife and their four children, of London, England; a brother, Henry Martin of Brach-enridge and a sister, Miss Etta Martin of Cambridge, Ohio. His wife, Mrs. Alice Garrett Martin, died in 1947.

Funeral services were held in the College Hill Reformed Presbyterian Church on Saturday afternoon, October 25th at 4 o'clock with the pastor, Rev. Frank H. Lathom, officiating. The funeral address was brought by Bishop Wilbur A. Ham-maker of Washington, D. C.

It is now ours to perpetuate this work. One of the great responsibilities that

rested upon Dr. Martin over the years was the raising of the necessary funds with which to keep the Association in operation. That burden of responsibility rests now upon those who follow him. To assist in perpetuating the important work which he gave the major portion of his life, a memorial fund has been started with funds contributed in his memory.

Realizing that many of his friends and friends of the cause of National Reform may wish to contribute to this fund, we are taking this opportunity to tell you about it. No finer tribute can now be paid to this great man than by promptly and generously contributing to this memorial fund in honorable remembrance of him. The goal for the fund is \$25,000.

Contributions to the R. H. MARTIN MEMORIAL FUND should be sent to the new address of the National Reform Association—109 Monitor Avenue, Pittsburgh 2, Pa.

A PERSONAL TRIBUTE

As a friend of Dr. R. H. Martin, and as one who was associated with him in the National Reform Association during all of his years as President, I would like the privilege of testifying to his Christian character as exemplified by his labors for a Christian America.

He had strong convictions that he was "his brother's keeper" and bent all his efforts in trying to arouse public opinion to the importance of preserving and strengthening the laws of our State and Nation so that the youth of our country would be led and helped to honor God by living Christian lives as against the evils of liquor, gambling and Sabbath desecration. He gave himself for others unselfishly and wholeheartedly.

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"RENWICK H. MARTIN - A TRIBUTE"

By Bishop Wilbur E. Hammaker
(*A Bishop of the Methodist Church*)

The Editor has asked me for a brief tribute to my old and dear friend, the Reverend Doctor Renwick H. Martin. In compliance with that request, I am furnishing excerpts from my address at the funeral service held in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania on the afternoon of October 25, 1958.

I am distressed for thee, my Brother Renwick, very pleasant hast thou been unto me. Thy love to me was wonderful; as it was to many a way-faring man, who found reflected in thee something of the light and love of Him whose great word was: "For God so loved the world that He gave His Only Begotten Son."

"And now, abideth faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love." In the midst of change, these remain steadfast as the stars. They shine through our cypress trees; they pierce the encircling gloom.

"Who hath not learned in hours of faith,
This truth to flesh and sense unknown,
That life is ever lord of death,
And love can never lose its own."

Renwick H. Martin knew something about this sort of confident trust in "The Eternal Goodness." Humbly he learned the facts of faith in "The School of Christ." He tested them in the fires of experience—his own and others. He found them to be worthy of all acceptance. Faith for him was practical. It was useful and useable. Renwick H. Martin appropriated its power to make himself strong. Through faith he became an unwearied worker in what, at times, seemed forlorn and almost foolish causes. Drudgery did not dismay him. He was indefatigable and thorough-going.

He was willing to do all kinds of hard work without the stimulation of "a place in the sun". He could walk and *not faint*, and he did a great deal of it in the Cause of Temperance Reform. True, he could on occasion mount up as on eagles' wings, or run and not be weary; and I might add, he liked such experiences. Who does not? *But*, he, more often, plodded a humdrum

pathway as a patient researcher. Without the enormous amount of work he put in on a scrutinizing study of liquor advertising costs, we would today have no exact statements to make concerning the huge sums spent annually by the makers of alcoholic beverages in advertising their products.

A dozen years ago the Drys had no factual knowledge. They guessed. The guesses ran all the way from twenty million dollars per year to one hundred millions. One hundred millions seemed stupendous and fantastic; but it was low. Nobody knew. As all the world knows, and as Dr. Martin knew full well, knowledge is power. So he set himself to the task of digging up the figures. They were not easily available; but he found ways and means. After more than two years of arduous research, he came up with the astonishing figures. They were never questioned. This is a sample of his devotion to forlorn and formidable causes.

In spite of all odds he was an optimist. With stout heart, he kept at the forefront of the battle for the things that make for decency and human well-being. His courage was dauntless. He looked expectantly for tomorrow and the many morrows to come. His confidence in the ultimate triumph of great and good causes was contagious. He heartened us when our spirits sagged. He never grew "old and tired". Less than two weeks ago, he sat in my office as "eager for the fray" as a man in his thirties or forties. He had journeyed to Washington for a conference with me in which we were to plan the next steps in connection with *The 4th R in Education*. No sign of faltering in the self-appointed tasks—mighty strenuous ones. He was an inspiring yoke-fellow. I never found myself pulling, even an ounce more of the load, than my share. We found joy in our comradely tasks. We both believed profoundly in abstinence and prohibition, and in the necessity of morals and basic religion for rounded education of the youth of the land.

I got a letter from him the very morning that he got the call to "come up higher". It was written the day before. What do you suppose it was about? His regret that a rather stubborn cold had prevented him from doing an agreed-on chore. He was to send me certain data so that I could take the next steps in our endeavor to widen and deepen the outreach of his last book—*The 4th R in Education*. He was chafing under the enforced delay. He always wanted to speed the wheels of the Chariot of the Lord.

At the very time his letter reached my desk he was entering into the joys of reunion. On the far shore he was striking glad hands with the waiting ones yonder, whom he had loved and lost, from the earthly scene, awhile.

He went suddenly and unexpectedly. But he was ready. For lo, these many years, more than the classical three score and ten, he had been on a basis of intimate friendship with his Father. It began when he was ten; he died at eighty-six. He was very sure of his Father. Long before the British king said it in the dark days of World War II, our brother beloved had experienced it. He had, "failing a clear light to tread safely into the unknown, gone out into the darkness and put his hand into the hand of God. That he found to be better than a light and safer than a known way". His faith was that simple. He was willing to be as a little child—God's little child. There was nothing pedantic or pretentious in his life as a Christian leader. For him there was not need to wrap up the laws of the spiritual life in a mysterious bundle. He knew them so well that he was untempted to shroud them in strangeness. With great yearning he sought to share them with his fellows.

With faith he coupled hope. He found them intertwined, interlocked. Just where one ends and the other begins is hard to decipher. Men of faith are always men of vibrant, radiant hope. There are times when we live on hope. How well Renwick Martin knew that. Hope kept him going in hours when faith faltered. He would not give up. He was undiscouraged in his quest for a better tomorrow. He longed with longing to help make it. His desire

was passionate, persistent, purposeful. He truly possessed hope; he was possessed by it. It belonged to him; he belonged to it. So he persevered in going about doing good.

But the greatest of these—faith, hope, love,—is love. Who shall say that the crowning quality in this good man's life was anything other than love? That was the motivation that kept him going in good and hopeful times; and, in bad. That was the driving force, the dynamo that energized the days and the nights of his labor in the Lord. He cared for folks. He had *concern*. He would have gathered them in his sheltering arms. All of them—good and bad—folks whom Christ loved and for whom He died. So Renwick Martin loved them and sought to save them from the dangers and pitfalls of life. We salute his white soul! God rest it! We hail him as one who acquitted himself right nobly as student, as pastor, as college president, as reformer, as son, as brother, as uncle, as husband, as father, as lover of his fellow-men.

A GREAT CHAMPION OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

E. Clay Young

INDEFATIGABLE seems to be the one word applicable to Dr. Martin. It implies incapability of fatigue and, hence, persistence in effort; strenuous, persevering and a tireless champion of everything righteous or for the uplift and betterment of mankind.

Generally speaking, I am opposed to much eulogy in commendation of the character and services of one deceased. However, if anyone has come into my life worthy of such, this man would be Dr. Martin. Being a believer in the plenary inspiration of the Holy Bible, a gospel preacher of note, a fluent speaker and writer (having authored several books), he was, naturally, against all existing evils in our beloved America which would interfere with the proper spiritual and physical growth, mental development etc., of our citizens, both young and old.

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DR. MARTIN - A VERSATILE CHAMPION

Dr. Delber H. Elliott

Dr. Renwick Harper Martin specialized in many fields of Christian activity. There are those who excel in the ministry. Others are prominent in education. Still others shine on the public platform. Few there be who can excel in all. But Dr. Martin made his influence felt in many spheres of Christian activity.

He was a *pastor*. The first 17 years of his ministry was spent as the pastor of the College Hill Reformed Presbyterian Church at Beaver Falls, Pa. The membership of his congregation trebled during his ministry and 120 persons who had no church connection were brought into the membership of the church.

He was a *college president*. He was elected to the presidency of Geneva College, at Beaver Falls, Pa. where he served for four years.

He was a *public lecturer*. As national field secretary of the National Reform Association he spent four years speaking in the interest of this cause. He spoke in 38 different states of our country stressing the need for reform in our national life.

He was a *reformer*. He became the director of Sabbath Observance for the Presbyterian Church championing the cause of the Sabbath. He then was elected to the position of president of the National Reform Association which he held for 27 years, lecturing and directing the work of the Association. He spearheaded an attack against the liquor traffic, gambling, Sabbath desecration and godlessness in governmental life.

He was an *editor*. He published, edited and circulated *The Christian Statesman*, the official organ of the National Reform Association.

He was an *author*. He published numerous articles and pamphlets in behalf of reform causes, including, "The Basis of our Sabbath Laws" and "The Commercialized Amusement Interests and the Christian Sabbath", the last of which appeared in *The Congressional Record*. Dr. Martin also published the following

books: *The Day, Six Studies on the Day, Our Public Schools—Christian or Secular, and The Fourth "R" in Education*.

He was a *research expert*. In the interest of reforms which he advocated Dr. Martin left no stone unturned to secure factual information to present to the public. He prepared charts, assembled facts from reliable sources and published leaflets which were distributed by the thousands to inform the public on such subjects as crime, liquor consumption, and liquor advertising. He revealed the fact that we are spending more for strong drink than is spent for the education of our youth. To secure such information Dr. Martin was at times allowed access to private files which are not open to public inspection.

Dr. Martin was a *crusader* in all these fields. It mattered not to him whether he was championing an unpopular cause or how strong the opposition against him, if he believed it was right, he militantly defended it with all the strength of his conviction.

He heeded the challenge of the prophet Isaiah (58:1) :

"Cry aloud, spare aloud, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins."

A PERSONAL TRIBUTE

(Continued from page 2)

He will be missed by all the forces and associations working for righteousness with whom he co-operated, especially the State and National W.C.T.U.

In memory of Dr. Martin would it not be fitting and practical for his friends and fellow Christians to continue his work by supporting the work of the National Reform Association and living such lives as would reflect his convictions and help make America Christian.

F. H. Davis
President, Board of Directors

A GREAT CHAMPION . . .

(Continued from page four)

namely, THE DESECRATION OF THE LORD'S DAY, THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC, GAMBLING and all other evils which go therewith. He was also THE Champion of Bible reading in our schools and colleges, plus Christian education for our youth.

I know of no person of his generation to whom the words of St. Paul (II Timothy 4:7,8) more truly apply:

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Hence there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge shall give me in that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing."

I am sure my Christian life and services in the work of our Lord and Master have been much more fruitful, because of having known, fellow-shipped and worked with my faithful friend, Dr. R. H. Martin. He is not dead, but yet liveth, and his works do follow him. To him death was saying "Good night" to loved ones and friends here, and "Good morning" to those over there. The fore-going is my tribute to A GREAT CHAMPION OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

A WARRIOR FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS

(Continued from page one)

Nature had endowed him with a physique that could stand the abuse of long hours of self-driven labor of mind and body. His physical prowess was apparent in his athletic feats on the track and football teams while a student in college. His fame is still cherished as perhaps the best all-round athlete produced at Geneva College. Entering the pastorate of the College Hill Reformed Presbyterian Church at Beaver Falls, he soon became the acknowledged leader of the forces of temperance and law and order throughout the county during a pulpit ministry of 17 years. Politicians feared and trusted him as he led the church organizations to

victory in placing good men in office and banishing the legalized liquor traffic in Beaver County before the era of prohibition.

Dr. Martin left the pastorate for a comparatively brief period of four years to serve to his Alma Mater as its president. Soon he was again crusading against the organized forces of evil. For eight years he toured the country lecturing on behalf of moral reform and organizing crusades for righteousness while in the employ of the National Reform Association and later the Presbyterian Board of Temperance. These were rewarding years of intense activity in the prime of his manhood.

But Dr. Martin was known best to us as the inspiring president of the National Reform Association. His leadership of our organization covered a period of 12 years and closed with his retirement on November 1, 1955. We recall in gratitude his creative leadership and dogged determination to persevere in spite of the financial difficulties of the era of depression and the resurgence of the liquor traffic which followed the repeal of prohibition and the moral backwash of the Second World War. An inspiring speaker and a capable organizer, he spoke and labored with an intensity of earnestness that was widely effective throughout the broad range program he developed for the National Reform Association.

Reinforcing the spoken word was Dr. Martin's potency as a writer. Books and pamphlets flowed from his facile and trenchant pen in a tireless effort to strengthen conviction and to energize the will to combat civic and social injustice in any form. As the editor of *The Christian Statesman*, he wrote innumerable editorials and developed the paper into a widely read forum for discussion of moral and religious programs of improvement.

Two basic characteristics were in constant evidence throughout Dr. Martin's long and distinguished service as our president. The first was his unwavering faith in the potency and practicability of God's word. Where the prophets or the Son of God had spoken, there he heard the divine command that he dared not disobey. Where God had laid foundations

ripture, there his servant must strive to build the superstructure of national reform and civic integrity. Thus the whole program of the National Reform Association under Dr. Martin's leadership was entered in the Bible and energized by obedience to revealed truth.

Dr. Martin's second controlling characteristic was an unwavering zeal, tempered with good judgment and a tolerant understanding of diverse viewpoints. He was always loyal to his own church. Yet he recognized that the expanding cause of reform could never be compressed within any denominational program. He sought at all times to enlist the cooperative activity of all brethren in Christ. He labored with commendable success to achieve practical unity in community efforts on behalf of Christ and His Kingdom. To know him was to admire him and to trust his wise leadership in united campaigns.

Lengthening experience had convinced Dr. Martin of the importance of confronting boys and girls in the public schools with the moral imperatives of the Word of God. The closing decade of his service to the King of Kings was devoted largely to a crusading effort to restore the Bible to its former place in public education as the divine foundation for morality amid the multiplied temptations of a secularized world. He reacted in crusading zeal to the hasty decision of the Supreme Court in the McCullom case. Painstaking research and legal acumen were revealed in his widely circulated pamphlet exposing the fallacious thinking of the majority of the Court who had declared unconstitutional Biblical training in public schools. This was followed by his scholarly and pungently phrased book, *Our Public Schools—Christian or Secular*, in

an attempt to arouse from lethargy lawyers, church leaders and public school educators.

Dr. Martin devoted the first two years of his retirement to research study and the careful writing of a second book. He was determined to arouse into action the dormant conscience of leaders in all walks of life who seemed unaware of the dangers of a completely secularized system of public education. In recent months this second book, *The Fourth "R" In American Education*, has appeared from the publisher and has been highly acclaimed. Persistent efforts to promote the sale of the book exhausted the energy of the old warrior. He fell a martyr in the cause to which he had dedicated the closing years of his ministry. He has entered the rewards of eternal life to hear the words of heavenly commendation: "Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord".

Death has removed from our Association a prince and a great man among reformers. But the causes to which he had dedicated his life must move forward in the increased zeal of those whom he has instructed and inspired. To us from his fallen hands has been thrown the torch of responsibility. Particularly the book, into which he had poured the fruits of long study, is ours to publicize, to distribute, and to use for the consecrated purpose for which it was written.

May we who honor Dr. Martin's memory and share his convictions respond to the closing challenge of his consecrated career. Speak unto the people of America that they go forward with faith and courageous enthusiasm in the name and spirit of the Eternal Captain of our Salvation. Dr. Martin being dead yet speaketh. We dare not fail.

I hereby give, devise and bequeath to the NATIONAL REFORM ASSOCIATION
(incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania),

FORM OF BEQUEST

the sum of.....dollars (.....)

(In case a testator wishes to leave some particular asset or piece of property instead of a sum of money he can do so by inserting a clear and sufficient description of it in place of words "the sum of," etc.)

MEMOIR OF REV. RENWICK HARPER MARTIN D.D.

(The following memoir, written by Rev. Frank H. Lathom, D.D., Vice-president of the National Reform Association and pastor of the College Hill Reformed Presbyterian Church, of which Dr. Martin was a former pastor, was read and adopted at the annual meeting of the National Reform Association in Pittsburgh on the evening of November 13, 1958.)

Renwick Harper Martin, better known to all of us as Dr. Martin, was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, September 14, 1872. He attended the schools of his community, then entered Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Pa. where he was graduated in May, 1895. He took special work in Columbia University and in Biblical Seminary of New York City. He entered the Reformed Presbyterian Seminary in Pittsburgh in October 1895 and completed his course there three years later. He was ordained and installed pastor of the College Hill R. P. Church on February 1, 1899, where he served for 17 years. He was released from the pastorate in 1916 to become president of Geneva College which position he held until 1920. He then became Field Secretary of the National Reform Association. This service was interrupted in 1924 when he began a four year period of service as a Director of the Department of Sabbath Observance of the Board of Christian Education of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. He returned to the leadership of the National Reform Association where he served until the time of his retirement in 1955. He was both President of the Association and Editor of its organ, *The Christian Statesman*.

Through these years Dr. Martin cooperated with other groups in the cause of temperance and moral reform. Particularly outstanding has been his research in the field of liquor advertising in behalf of the National Temperance and Prohibition Council as Chairman of its Committee Against Liquor Advertising.

He was much interested in promoting nonsectarian religion and the wider reading of the Bible in the public schools. He

was instrumental in securing the passage of a law for required Bible reading in the schools of Kentucky and promoted similar campaigns in Michigan and Arkansas.

In addition to the many miscellaneous articles, pamphlets and booklets written by Dr. Martin, he is the author of three books, *The Day*, dealing with the Sabbath, *Our Public Schools—Christian or Secular* and since his retirement, *The Fourth "R" in American Education*. His extensive writings and numerous addresses have given creative leadership in this cause throughout the United States and especially in California. Over a period of twenty years he prepared a series of Liquor Facts leaflets and folders. Millions of these have been distributed throughout the churches and public schools of our land.

Dr. Martin never knew the meaning of the word "retirement". Up until his final illness, a few days before his death on October 23, 1958, he was reading, traveling, writing and ever planning for a better future. He could well be termed a "rugged individual". He was rugged in body, having been the captain of the first football team of Geneva College. He was rugged in mind, always searching out the facts in a tireless effort to arrive at the truth. He was rugged in spirit, having fought a good fight, and through it all he kept the faith. To know Dr. Martin was to respect him. In spite of all his achievements he was a humble man. His life has left an indelible imprint upon all who knew him, and upon the church of which he was a member, and upon the whole cause of National Reform. God grant that we may be given grace and strength to follow in his train.